

Remarks

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The Examiner has rejected claims 15, 17 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner has rejected claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,400,019, issued in the names of Hirashima et al., (hereinafter "Hirashima"), in view of United States Patent No. 6,387,830, issued in the names of Blumberg et al., (hereinafter "Blumberg"). The Examiner has rejected claims 10-11, 13-14, 16, 20, 23-24 and 28-30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirashima and Blumberg in view of United States Patent No. 6,489,180, issued in the names of Tsai et al., (hereinafter "Tsai"). The Examiner has rejected claims 16, 23-24 and 27-31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirashima, Blumberg and Tsai in view of United States Patent No. 6,483,043, issued in the name of Kline, (hereinafter "Kline").

Claims 8-17, 20, 22-24 and 27-31 were originally presented for Examination. Claims 12, 17 and 22 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer, by way of the present Response. Claims 32-40 have been added by way of the present Response. Claims 8, 15

and 31 have been amended by way of the present Response. Claims 8-11, 13-16, 20, 23-24 and 27-40 are currently pending, of which, claims 8 and 10 are in independent form. Favorable reconsideration of the present Response as currently constituted is respectfully requested.

Title

Applicant has amended the title of the present application in order to better describe the invention. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amended title.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, in the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner states that the limitation "a material that will prevent adhesion of the substrate" does not comply with the enablement requirement. Although Applicant respectfully traverses the assertion that this limitation is nonenabling, Applicant has amended claim 15 to remove the offending limitation. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the outstanding §112, first paragraph, rejection.

Claims 15, 17, and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly

point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Claim 15 has been appropriately amended to correct the indefinite language. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the outstanding §112, second paragraph, rejection.

Claim 17 has been cancelled by way of the present Response. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the outstanding §112, second paragraph, rejection is rendered moot.

Claim 31 has been appropriately amended to correct the indefinite language. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the outstanding §112, second paragraph, rejection..

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirashima in view of Blumberg. Claims 10-11, 13-14, 16, 20, 23-24 and 28-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirashima and Blumberg in view of Tsai. Claims 16, 23-24 and 27-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirashima, Blumberg and Tsai in view of Kline.

In each of the §103(a) rejections, the Examiner relies on Hirashima, which is prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Applicant respectfully submits herewith a Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 to establish invention of the subject matter of the above-captioned

application in the United States at a date prior to November 9, 2000, i.e., the effective date of Hirashima. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the §103(a) rejections are rendered moot. Further, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the outstanding §103(a) rejections and allowance of claims 8-11, 13-14, 16, 20, 23-24 and 27-31.

Moreover, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 15, which was not rejected, is patentable over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicant requests allowance of claim 15. Additionally, Applicant respectfully submits that the newly added claims, claims 32-40, are also allowable for the reasons presented hereinabove.

Fee Statement

Compared to the initial filing, in the present Response, the number of independent claims has decreased and the total number of claims has decreased. Accordingly, Applicant believes no fees are due for the filing of this Response. However, if any additional fees are due, please charge, or credit, our Deposit Account No. 03-1130.

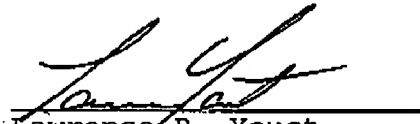
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding objections and rejections and allow claims 8-11, 13-16, 20, 23-24 and 27-40

presented for reconsideration herein. Accordingly, a favorable action in the form of an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned for any reason that would advance the instant application to issue.

Dated this 18th day of March, 2004.

Respectfully submitted:



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